

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-05 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 PM-04
NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03 H-02 EA-09 ITC-01 STR-04
PA-02 PRS-01 USIA-15 SIL-01 LAB-04 TRSE-00 /101 W
-----221938Z 042566 /45

R 221811Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1841
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 LONDON 04780

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAIR. UK, FR
SUBJECT: CIVAIR: PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS ON CONCORDE,
BERMUDA RENEGOTIATION AND CHARTERS, MARCH 22

1. DURING QUESTION PERIOD IN COMMONS MARCH 22, SECRETARY OF STATE FOR TRADE, EDMUND DELL, AND HIS PARLIAMENTARY UNDER SECRETARY, STANLEY CLINTON-DAVIS, MADE STATEMENTS ON CONCORDE, THE US/UK BILATERAL AVIATION AGREEMENT RENEGOTIATION AND CHARTER FLIGHTS.

2. ON CONCORDE, DELL SAID THE NY/NJ PORT AUTHORITY'S NEXT MEETING WILL BE APRIL 14. THE BA/AIR FRANCE COURT HEARING, WHICH HAD BEEN POSTPONED AGAIN, WILL HAVE A NEW DATE SET THIS WEEK. WHEN ASKED BY A CONSERVATIVE MP IF,

BY ANY UNLIKELY CHANCE THE GOVERNMENT ARE STILL IN OFFICE IN JUNE . . ." WILL THEY THEN PUT OFF SEEKING NEW BERMUDA AGREEMENT UNTIL THE US GOVERNMENT LIVES UP TO ITS OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE PRESENT ONE BY ALLOWING CONCORDE INTO NEW YORK, DELL RESPONDED, "WE WILL SIGN A NEW AGREEMENT ON JUNE 22 OR BEFORE IF WE NEGOTIATE A NEW ONE SATISFACTORY TO US. AMONG THE PROBLEMS OF THE EXISTING AGREEMENT IS
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THAT WE HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO OBTAIN OUR TREATY RIGHTS IN RESPECT OF THE LANDING OF CONCORDE IN NEW YORK. . . IF WE GET A SATISFACTORY AGREEMENT, WE WILL SIGN IT."

3. ASKED BY ANOTHER CONSERVATIVE MP IF HE WOULD CONSIDER AS PART OF THE BERMUDA RENEGOTIATION ACTION SPECIFICALLY AGAINST NEW YORK--IN WITHDRAWING TRAFFIC RIGHTS BETWEEN

NEW YORK AND BRITAIN AND NEW YORK AND FRANCE UNTIL THE OBLIGATION UNDER THE TREATY IS FULFILLED, DELL SAID "IT WOULD NOT BE RIGHT AT THIS TIME TO TALK ABOUT STEPS WE MIGHT TAKE--THERE IS A FURTHER MEETING APRIL 14."

4. A LABOR MP STATED IF THE AMERICANS HAD BEEN FIRST WITH A SUPERSONIC AIRCRAFT WE WOULD HAVE BEEN EXPECTED TO RECEIVE IT WITH OPEN ARMS--IT IS A CASE OF SOUR GRAPES ON THE PART OF THE AMERICANS. IN RESPONSE, DELL AGREED THE UK WOULD HAVE BEEN EXPECTED TO ACCEPT A US SST IN LONDON BUT, IN CONCLUSION, ADDED "I WOULD LIKE TO WELCOME THE STATEMENTS MADE BY VARIOUS AIRCRAFT MANUFACTURERS IN THE UNITED STATES RECENTLY AND BY OTHERS SAYING THAT CONCORDE SHOULD BE ALLOWED INTO NEW YORK."

5. IN A SEPARATE EXCHANGE, DAVIS SAID THESE CONCEN- TRATING, IN ADDITION TO NEW YORK, ON SECURING CONCORDE ROUTES TO MELBOURNE AND TOKYO; A FAVORABLE RESPONSE HAD BEEN RECEIVED FROM THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT. NEGOTIA- TIONS WITH THE INDONESIANS FOR SUPERSONIC OVERFLIGHT ROUTES ARE CONTINUING. IN REGARD TO SUCH ROUTES OVER INDIA, DAVIS NOTED THE PAST INDIAN GOVERNMENT HAD OBJECTED BUT "WE WILL HAVE TO AWAIT DEVELOPMENTS WITH INTEREST AS AND WHEN THE NEW INDIAN GOVERNMENT IS FORMED." IN A DIS- CUSSION OF CREW TRAINING IN CONNECTION WITH OPENING UP POSSIBLE FAR EAST CONCORDE ROUTES, DAVIS SAID "WE MUST SEE WHAT HAPPENS WITH NEW YORK BECAUSE THAT SITUATION IMPINGES UPON THE OPERATION OF THE LONDON-MELBOURNE

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ROUTE."

6. IN REGARD TO THE US/UK RENEGOTIATION OF BERMUDA, DELL INFORMED THE COMMONS THAT THE MEETINGS WOULD BE RESUMED IN WASHINGTON MARCH 28. HE NOTED SOME PROGRESS HAD BEEN MADE AT THE FEB. 28/MAR. 11 ROUND OF TALKS TOWARD AGREEMENT ON METHODS OF REGULATING CAPACITY ON THE NORTH ATLANTIC AND ESTABLISHING TARIFFS. HE SAID THE UK FAVORED COMPETITION BUT NOT BY MEANS OF PUTTING SUCH GROSSLY EXCESSIVE CAPACITY ON THE NORTH ATLANTIC AS TO WASTE FUEL AND FORCE EXCESS FARES TO PASSENGERS. HE SAID IT WAS NOT TRUE THAT THE US HAD RULED OUT SINGLE DESIGNATION AS A SYSTEM OF CAPACITY CONTROL. "WE ARE CONCERNED WITH CAPACITY CONTROL AND THE UNITED STATES IN THE LAST NEGOTIATIONS SUGGESTED THAT."

7. RESPONDING TO A QUESTION ABOUT WHETHER CHARTER AND AIR FREIGHT CONTROL WAS ALSO BEING NEGOTIATED, DELL NOTED IT IS THE VIEW OF BOTH PARTIES (US AND UK) THAT CHARTERS SHOULD NOT COME WITHIN THESE NEGOTIATIONS. HE SAID, "WE WANT A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE UNITED STATES
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TO GOVERN THE OPERATION OF CHARTERS. WE THINK THIS IS BEST HANDLED OUTSIDE THESE/(THE BERMUDA) NEGOTIATIONS."

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 22-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
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